

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1239

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION designating the Tennessee National Guard Armory in Crockett County in honor of Lieutenant General John G. Castellaw, United States Marine Corps.

WHEREAS, many fine and honorable traditions have arisen from the deep wellspring of honor and bravery possessed by Tennesseans, but there is no finer tradition than that which gave Tennessee its nickname; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the "Volunteer State" have, throughout the years, willingly forsaken the comforts and securities of inaction by taking up arms against the enemies of this great Nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind in order to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, one such courageous Volunteer, Crockett County native Lieutenant General John G. Castellaw of the United States Marine Corps (USMC), who currently serves as the Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, has devoted his career to defending our great Nation; and

WHEREAS, a 1972 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, Lt. Gen. Castellaw was commissioned in the USMC, then to overseas tours in the Mediterranean, the Western Pacific, and the Middle East; he served as a platoon leader and company executive officer in the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, as an inspector and instructor with the 4th Tank Battalion, as a flight line officer in HMH-362, and as an assistant operations officer in Marine Medium Helicopter Squadrons (HMM) 264 and 365; and

WHEREAS, as a field grade officer, Lt. Gen. John Castellaw later served as the executive officer of Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron before commanding HMM 264 during its Mediterranean deployment as the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's Aviation Combat

Element; he also commanded the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1. His general officer commands were the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Okinawa, the International Force East Timor, and the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gen. Castellaw's staff officer tours began with Marine Aircraft Groups 26 and 36, and he later served in the Department of Aviation, Marine Corps Headquarters, before beginning his joint staff assignments in the J3 Operations Directorate of the U.S. European Command with the Command Group of the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the Siege of Sarajevo; and

WHEREAS, he further distinguished himself as Deputy Commander of the Marine Forces, U.S. Central Command before commanding the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Cherry Point and returning to the U.S. Central Command as Chief of Staff; and

WHEREAS, immediately prior to acceding to his current position of Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Lt. Gen. John Castellaw rendered sterling service as Deputy Commandant for the Department of Aviation; and

WHEREAS, having proved himself a valuable resource in our Nation's defense, Lt. Gen. Castellaw is a graduate of the Basic School, the Amphibious Warfare School, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Defense College; he also holds a Master's Degree in Military Studies from the American Military University; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Lt. Gen. John Castellaw has evidenced an unswerving commitment to excellence that has earned him the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit with two gold stars; and

WHEREAS, an assault helicopter pilot with more than 3,300 flight hours in both rotary and fixed wing aircraft, Lt. Gen. Castellaw was honored with the 1990 Cunningham Award for the Marine Aviator of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gen. John Castellaw has served with great courage and gallantry throughout his career, ever willing to sacrifice his personal safety and concerns for the enduring freedom of his country and the preservation of the ideals that forged this great Nation, and he deserves proper recognition; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the Tennessee National Guard Armory in Crockett County is hereby designated as the "Lieutenant General John G. Castellaw National Guard Armory" in recognition of Lt. Gen. Castellaw's career of uniformly outstanding service, his dedication to his country and his State, and his unceasing commitment to duty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Military is directed to erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating such edifice as the "Lieutenant John G. Castellaw National Guard Armory."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the Department of Military from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this resolution. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General.